

selecting by the user at least one of the encrypted content from the distributed contents that can be utilized by the user;

decoding the encrypted content using decoding information accompanying the encrypted content and utilizing thereof by the user; and

executing accounting to the user according to said utilized content.

7. (Three Times Amended) A contents distribution system that distributes digitized contents to plural users, comprising:

a distribution device that distributes encrypted contents along with summary information showing a summary of the contents, the distribution device further provides decoding information accompanying encrypted contents, each decoding information specific to a user in the plural users;

a user terminal that receives encrypted contents distributed by said distribution device, displays summary information only if decoding information accompanying encrypted contents can be utilized by the user wherein the decoding information determines which encrypted contents among the distributed contents can be utilized by the user, the user selects at least one encrypted content from the distributed encrypted contents that can be utilized by the user, decodes the encrypted content using decoding information accompanying the encrypted content, and generates accounting information according to the utilization of said selected encrypted content; and

a central station that collects and totalizes accounting information generated by said user terminal.

#### REMARKS

Claims 1, 4-8 and 11-15 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 7 are amended for reasons related to patentability. Reconsideration of the